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SOURCE Ch'un-chung Jih-pao

IMPROVEMENTS IN AGRICULTURAL TECHNIQUES  
IN NORTHWEST CHINA

TECHNICIANS INSTRUCT IN USE AND REPAIR OF FARM IMPLEMENTS -- Sian, Ch'un-chung Jih-pao, 7 Jul 53

In April 1953, the operations team of the Northwest Agriculture and Forestry Department carried out distribution operations in the Wei-nan and Pao-chi Special Administrative Districts. Traveling technical guidance teams were formed and these teams visit ten or more important places in the two districts. They distributed 921 simplified 5-inch walking plows, 86 North China 7-inch walking plows, 34 pumps, 160 sprayers, water pipe, spray guns, and many other miscellaneous items. Many farmers were instructed in the use of this equipment.

A joint team from the Shensi Water Conservation Bureau and the Federation of Cooperatives was organized to repair devices for raising irrigation water. In May, they spent more than 20 days visiting villages in Shensi and repaired more than 940 devices. The Shensi Province Agriculture and Forestry Bureau has instructed all hsien and special districts to repair farm implements. In T'ien-li Hsien and Ching-yang Hsien, cadre members have been detached from their regular positions to form a team of 24 members to help put farm implements in order.

CORRECTION OF MISTAKEN THINKING ON CLOSE PLANTING -- Sian, Ch'un-chung Jih-pao, 8 Jul 53

There are still some farmers who do not recognize the advantages of close planting or whose understanding of its meaning is limited. One reason for this is failure to realize that other factors besides close planting must be

50X1-HUM

- 1 -

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considered. It is necessary to give attention to deep plowing, proper fertilization and irrigation, selection of suitable varieties of seed, and other advanced techniques. It must also be remembered that "close" is used in a relative not absolute, sense. All factors must be considered before the proper distance for planting can be determined.

SINKIANG MILITARY DISTRICT UNITS BEGIN WHEAT HARVEST -- Sian, Ch'un-chung Jih-pao, 6 Jul 53

Units of the Chinese People's Liberation Army in Sinkiang Province have begun to harvest wheat on the 500,000 mou of land they had planted. Because these troops used advanced methods in planting, fertilizing, cultivating, and irrigating their land, this year's crop will be better than last year's. In one colonized area, the spring wheat crop is estimated to be twice that of last year. In an area in the northern part of Sinkiang, the average yield of a 4,000-mou field of winter wheat is expected to reach 600 shih-chin per mou [one shih-chin equals 1/2 kilogram].

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50X1-HUM

- 2 -

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